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NOTES AND REVIEWS

Standard Method of Testing Juvenile Mentality by the Binet-Simon Scale with the original Questions, Pictures, and Drawings; a Uniform Procedure and Analysis. By NORBERT J. MELVILLE. With an introduction by William Healy. Philadelphia: Lippincott (c. 1917) 142 p.

This manual for examiners using the Binet-Simon scale of mental tests is particularly valuable through its emphasis on several important points not always understood even by those who apply tests. What long experience has taught clinical psychologists, who check up their diagnoses by outcomes discovered through later observations; does not readily filter through to class-room instruction in mental testing. This deals for the first time informally with such questions as what tests to begin with, which of two alternative questions should be first employed in a given case, the proper conditions for repetition, and what standard should decide whether responses in such tests as definitions should be credited to the age of six or nine. The work is divided into two parts, the first on the general procedure in gathering and analyzing the data, including the nature and scope of the standard method, analysis of the results of mentality tests, personal evaluations and classifications, the problem of statistical analysis and of clinical interpretation, general plan of ontogenetic case-study, selected references on the Binet-Simon scale, general directions to examiners, standard record forms and directions for using, uniform procedure in regard to the test order, repetition, the materials and general directions for using, and finally a summary of the general procedure. The second part is devoted to uniform methods of applying the Binet-Simon scale. An appendix discusses tests above fifteen, scale for marking drawings, orthogenic and psycho-educational tables, table of anatomical limits for subnormal boys. On the whole it is a convenient and timely work.

G. STANLEY HALL.